

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1031

By Burks

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor A. C. Clark and Katherine Terry Clark for their meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those citizens who, through an unflagging commitment to public service and professional expertise, have made significant contributions to their respective communities and to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, two such estimable individuals are Mr. A. C. Clark and Mrs. Katherine Terry Clark; and

WHEREAS, A. C. Clark was appointed Tennessee's Commissioner of Agriculture by Governor Ned R. McWherter on January 17, 1987, a testament to his professionalism, integrity, and talent, and he served with distinction in that position for two years; and

WHEREAS, before serving as Commissioner of Agriculture, Mr. Clark worked for the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service in numerous positions, including Pickett County Agent (1949-1955), Putnam County 4-H Leader and County Agent (1955-1961), Agricultural Program Supervisor of District IV (1961-1962), and District IV Supervisor, overseeing fifteen Upper Cumberland Counties (1961-1985); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clark also served as a Visiting Professor at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, where he taught graduate courses in supervision and management; and

WHEREAS, donating his time and many talents to numerous civic, educational and agricultural organizations and activities, A. C. Clark has served with distinction as a member of the Board of Trustees for the University of Tennessee, a member of the State Board of Regents for the State University and Community College System, a member of the Tennessee Wildlife

Resources Commission, Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture, President of the Agriculture Foundation at Tennessee Technological University, and Director and Vice President of the Rehabilitation Corporation; and

WHEREAS, committed to the youth of the State of Tennessee, Mr. Clark worked assiduously to promote the youth phase of the UT Extension Program, and his leadership was essential in the establishment of the Clyde M. York 4-H Training Center in Crossville, Tennessee; in recognition of his meritorious service to UT Extension and 4-H, the Clark/Huddleston/York District IV Endowment Fund was established in 1989; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, A. C. Clark was named a State Friend of Extension by Epsilon Sigma Phi in 1987 and a Distinguished Agriculture Alumnus of Tennessee Technological University in 1982; he also received an FFA Honorary American Farmer Degree in 1987, the Service Award from the National Association of 4-H Extension Agents in 1978, and the National Distinguished Service Award in 1961; and

WHEREAS, A. C. Clark courageously served in the military during World War II, fighting to protect the freedoms and principles we all hold dear; he received a Purple Heart and four Campaign Stars for his bravery in combat; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clark graduated from Tennessee Technological University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Agriculture Science in 1948, and he received his Master's of Science degree in Agriculture Economics from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in 1957; he also completed an Advanced Study in Administrative Supervision at Colorado State University in 1966; and

WHEREAS, not to be outdone by her husband, Mrs. Katherine Terry Clark has evinced the greatest integrity, expertise, professionalism, acumen, and alacrity in all her endeavors throughout the years; and

WHEREAS, raised in Clay County, Katherine Terry Clark attended Tennessee Technological University and graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Mathematics; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Clark diligently served as a chemistry and math teacher at Byrdstown High School for three years before moving on to Upperman High School in Baxter; and

WHEREAS, Katherine Clark worked with purpose and conviction as a teacher in the Vocational Improvement Program at Upperman High School for fourteen years, in which position she earned the respect of her colleagues and students alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, devoted to community service, Mrs. Clark has served as President of the Putnam County Farm Bureau Women, President of the Putnam County Young Homemakers Family and Child Ecology (FCE) Club, and a member of the Putnam County FCE Council; she is currently a fifty-year member of the FCE Club and a member of the Honorary Teachers Society; and

WHEREAS, devout Christians, Mr. and Mrs. Clark are active members of the Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ, which they have served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, their many civic and professional accomplishments aside, A. C. Clark and Katherine Clark are most thankful for the love and companionship they share with each other; their marriage has been blessed with four children, Dr. James Clark, Sandra Shepherd, Pat Davis, and Edward Clark; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Clark epitomize the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to family and community that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans, and they should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Mr. A. C. Clark and Mrs. Katherine Terry Clark for their meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee and our agricultural industry and community, commend their years of professional service and community leadership, and wish them every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.